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make some arrangements either to destroy these animals, or in any other way to keep them out of the planters' estates. It would be some help if elephant pits could be ordered to be dug at the places affected. Some inducement might also be held out to planters by Government to destroy the animals, which were of no use to the Forest department.

Dewan's reply.—I would advise the Member to see the Conservator on the subject, and I am sure that Mr. Rama Rao will do what he can, consistently with the interests of the Forest department.

The Assembly adjourned at 2 P. M. and met again at 2-30 P. M.

IV.—Public Works.

Desirability of consulting the Revenue department in the matter of irrigation works.

Mr. N. Velayudhaperumal Pillai (Member, Agastiswaram Taluk) said that the Revenue authorities had a better knowledge of the requirements of the ryots in matters connected with irrigation and the ryots also had greater convenience in representing their grievances to them than to the officers of the Public Works department. He therefore requested that arrangements might be made for all applications for irrigation works made by ryots to the Revenue authorities being forwarded by the latter, with their remarks as to the real needs in each case, to the Public Works department for disposal and for the annual irrigation maramat budgets being prepared in consultation with the Division Peishkars.

Dewan's reply.—The views of the Member are noted.

Allotment of funds for affording irrigational facilities.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer (Member, Shencottah Taluk) referred to the difficulties which the ryots were now labouring under in the matter of agriculture and made the following suggestions for removing them :—

(1) Funds should be equitably distributed for the successful working of the Tank Restoration Scheme, according to the requirements of each puravu, and all wet lands brought under the direct irrigation of tanks, with unfailing sources of water supply thereto. The Member said that the necessary restoration works should be done solely at the cost of Government, irrespective of the class of tanks, major, minor or petty, and that no additional cess should be levied from the ryots.

(2) The Irrigation Regulation should be modified in such a way that the ryots might be made to bear a share

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of the cost of maintenance alone, as a penalty for not taking proper care of the tanks.

(3) On the application of ryots, roads for agricultural traffic should be constructed by Government and a moiety of the cost realised from the ryots interested in them in convenient instalments.

Mr. S. Subramonia Karayalan (Member, Shencottah Taluk) said that, so far as the Shencottah taluk was concerned, no amount of restoration of tanks would do the ryots any good and that, unless a perennial source of water-supply was found by diverting the course of some river, there was no use in improving the irrigation tanks at present. He added that, while Mr. Bastow was recently in that taluk, he explained to him the utility of the scheme. The Chief Engineer was of opinion that the project would be a useful one. He requested therefore that Government might be pleased to order an investigation into the matter.

Dewan's reply.—The views of the Members are noted. As for the scheme suggested by Mr. Subramonia Karayalan, Government would await the report which the Chief Engineer may send on the subject.

38. Equitable distribution of the budget allotments for public and maramat works.

Mr. K. N. Mamman Mappilla (Member, Thiruvalla Taluk) said that he had intended to urge the necessity for an equitable distribution of the budget allotments for public and maramat works in both the Kottayam and Quilon divisions. But, as Government promised to redress the grievance of the Kottayam division, he would confine himself to the Quilon division. He was sorry to observe from the address that the Quilon division was not to be allowed the same benefit, owing to the existence of the railway and the recent arrangements made for the restoration of the irrigation tanks of the Shencottah taluk. He said that the claims of the whole division could not be satisfied either on account of the railway which served only three taluks or the irrigation works obviously intended for the benefit of a single taluk. He therefore requested that the Quilon division might be accorded equal treatment with the Kottayam division in the matter of public works and an allotment provided for that division also in the next budget. He also called particular attention to the urgent necessity of bridging three rivers in the Tiruvella taluk and said that the matter was one which had been brought up at successive sessions of the Assembly.

Dewan's reply.—The views of the Member are noted and will be considered.

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